Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the chemically modified hyperpolymeric hemoglobin originates from humans, swine, or cattle.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution contains sodium chloride at a concentration between 50 and 150 g/L.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the electrolytes are selected to correspond with physiological ambient media in the person the solution is intended to be administered to.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to

Claim 9, further comprising covalently bonding a polyalkylene oxide to the modified hyperpolymeric hemoglobin prior to administering the solution to a person.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution is administered to the person by intravascular injection.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution is administered to the person at least twice.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A method of treating acute pulmonary edema comprising:

(a) providing an aqueous hypo-oncotic solution comprising electrolytes and ~~chemically modified~~ high molecular weight intermolecularly crosslinked hyperpolymeric hemoglobin, which is further chemically modified by covalent linkage of reactive effectors, or covalent linkage of other macromolecules selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene oxides), poly(ethylene glycols), dextranes, and hydroxyethylstarches; and

(b) administering the solution to a person to treat acute

pulmonary edema, wherein the solution before administration to a person has a (hypo) oncotic pressure below 5 mbar.